

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
Intercounty Connector Project

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic Frank Allen Property

and/or common Statira Wagner Property

2. Location:

street & number 13701 Virginia Manor Road

___ not for publication

city, town Muirkirk

x vicinity of

congressional district

state

Maryland

county

Prince George's

3. Classification:

Category

Ownership

Status

Present Use

___ district

___ public

x occupied

___ agriculture

___ museum

x building(s)

x private

___ unoccupied

___ commercial

___ park

___ structure

___ both

___ work in progress

___ education

x private

___ site

Public Acquisition

Accessible

___ entertainment

residence

___ object

___ in process

___ yes: restricted

___ government

___ religious

___ being considered

___ yes: unrestricted

___ industrial

___ scientific

x not applicable

x no

___ military

___ other:

___ transportation

4. Owner of Property: (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Statira Wagner

street & number 13701 Virginia Manor Road

telephone no.:

city, town Laurel

state and zip code MD 20707

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Prince George's County

liber 1265

street & number Prince George's County Judicial Center

folio 492

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

___ federal

___ state

___ county

___ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. PG:60-15(PACS E2.24)

Condition

☐ excellent

☐ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move _____

Resource Count: 6

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Frank Allen Property is a 1½-story, 3-bay side-gable cottage on the east side of Virginia Manor Road in the Muirkirk vicinity of Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1930, the building has a front-gable addition located at the northeast corner of the cottage, and a large front-gable entry porch on the south elevation.

The structure has an asphalt shingle, side-gable roof with a large, exterior brick chimney on the east wall. The cottage is of wood-frame construction with clapboard siding, and it has a concrete foundation. The windows are 1/1 double-hung wood unless noted otherwise.

The front, or south elevation has a large front-gable entry porch in the third bay. The elevation has one window. The entry porch has an asphalt shingle roof and it is of wood-frame construction sheathed in plywood. The south elevation of the porch has four screen windows and one screen door, and the east elevation has a wood door.

The west elevation has a symmetrical fenestration pattern, with two windows on the first story and one window in the gable end.

The north, or rear elevation is partially concealed by the front-gable addition. The visible part of the cottage has two windows on the first story.

The east elevation is partially concealed by the front-gable addition. A large, brick exterior chimney is located in the first bay. There are two windows on the first story and one window in the gable end.

The front-gable addition has an asphalt shingle roof. It is of wood-frame construction with a concrete block foundation. The addition has a variety of windows. The south elevation has one 6/6 double-hung wood window and a wood door. The west and east elevations have two 6/6, and one 1/1 double-hung wood windows. The addition has an interior brick chimney located near the center of the structure.

There are five outbuildings associated with this property. The first outbuilding is a shed with an asphalt shingle, shed-roof with exposed rafters. Constructed circa 1950, it is of wood-frame construction. The shed is located north of the cottage.

The second outbuilding is a shed with an asphalt shingle, side-gable roof. Constructed circa 1980, it is of wood-frame construction and it is located northeast of the cottage and southeast of the first shed.

The third outbuilding is a 2-story storage building with an asphalt shingle, side-gable roof. Constructed circa 1950, it is of wood-frame construction with a concrete block foundation. The storage building is located east of the cottage, first shed, and second shed.

The fourth outbuilding is a shed with an asphalt shingle, shed-roof. Constructed circa 1950, it is of wood-frame construction. The shed is located east of the cottage, first shed, and second shed, and north of the storage building.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Frank Allen Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-15 (PACS E2.24)

ADDRESS: 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Muirkirk vicinity, Prince George's County, Maryland

7. Description (Continued)

The fifth outbuilding is a 1-story, 3-bay guest house with an asphalt shingle, side-gable roof. Constructed circa 1960, it is of wood-frame construction with plywood sheathing. The guest house is located east of the cottage and the four outbuildings.

The property is located on the east side of Virginia Manor Road, with a large wooded property to the north, woods and residences to the east, and an industrial park to the south. The property is generally level and heavily wooded. The property's setting is rural.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG:60-15(PACS E2.24)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa 1930

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
 and/or
 Applicable Exceptions: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
 Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Frank Allen Property is not shown on the 1879 Hopkins Atlas. Deed records indicate that the property was part of approximately 10 hectares (25 acres) of land owned by Thomas Mitchell, a landowner in the area, which was conveyed to Franklin Mitchell in September 1909. Franklin Mitchell conveyed the property to James Curley in September 1927, who subsequently conveyed the property to Frank Allen. Based on the style of architecture, and an interview with the current owner's son, it has been concluded that the cottage was built during the ownership of Frank Allen in the 1930s. In 1950, the Allen heirs conveyed the property to Statira Wagner, the current owner of the property. The current parcel size is 0.81 hectares (2 acres).

The Frank Allen Property is in the Muirkirk area of Laurel, on land originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" was approximately 1214 hectares (3000 acres) from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel, and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and later additions to Snowden land eventually covered 3749 hectares (9265 acres) by 1743. (Geraci, 1976: 4; Cook, 1976: 270-271).

Iron ore was noticed in the Muirkirk area about 1800, but since there is no natural source of power there and overland travel was difficult until the railroad was built, it was not until 1847 that the iron was mined (Brennan 1974: 2). The Frank Allen Property is located adjacent to Furnace Road (now Virginia Manor Road), which led to the iron furnace which had been established by the Ellicott family of Ellicott's Mills at what is now the junction of U.S. 1 and Muirkirk Road. During the nineteenth century, the Muirkirk furnace supplied pig iron for use as gun carriages and engine cylinders. The Muirkirk MARC train station and a paint pigment manufacturing plant now occupy the site of the furnace.

The Muirkirk settlement, near the intersection of Muirkirk Road and Old Baltimore Pike, consisted of the furnace, kilns, the mansion of Charles Coffin, who owned the furnace after the Ellicotts, approximately 30 workers residences, a store and post office. Suburban development began with the formation of the Muirkirk Land Company and the construction of electric street car lines through Muirkirk to Laurel. The furnace operated until 1911, and was one of the last furnaces operating in Maryland (Brennan 1974: 3; Prince George's County 1974: 290).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Frank Allen Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-15 (PACS E2.24)

ADDRESS: 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Muirkirk vicinity, Prince George's County, Maryland

8. Significance (Continued)

The Muirkirk area is also known for its clay, sand, and gravel mining. Red and grey clays that are useful for making bricks have been mined in the area since the nineteenth century. Sand and gravel were also mined, and during the 1940s mining in the area increased significantly. Currently, much of the land between Laurel and Beltsville on either side of Interstate 95 consists of gravel pits and sand piles.

The Frank Allen Property is a side-gable, vernacular cottage. Between 1870 and 1940 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Although designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder, the Frank Allen Property is an example of a vernacular, custom-built side-gable cottage. Side-gable cottages are usually two to two-and-a-half stories tall (although the Frank Allen Property is 1½-stories), 3 bays wide and one to three rooms deep (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Frank Allen Property, constructed circa 1930, is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C; the cottage is an undistinctive example of a common architectural style, and the architectural integrity of the cottage has been compromised by the addition which has altered the form and massing of the original design. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility Not Recommended <u>X</u>
Comments: _____	

Reviewer, OPS: <u>Andrew Lewis</u>	Date: <u>11/6/01</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>PK</u>	Date: <u>11/9/01</u>

✓-entered

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG:60-15 (PACS E2.24)

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .81 hectare (2 acres)

Quadrangle name Beltsville, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall/Ryan P. McKay

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date December 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Frank Allen Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-15 (PACS E2.24)

ADDRESS: 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Muirkirk vicinity, Prince George's County, Maryland

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Brennan, John C. The Muirkirk Iron Mines and the 1940 WPA Maryland Guidebook. Unpublished paper, 1974.
- Cook, William G. Montpelier & the Snowden Family. Privately Printed, 1976.
- Geraci, Ron, Vicki Walker, and Linda Donnary. Old Building Survey of the Burtonsville Area. Burtonsville, Maryland: Burtonsville Bicentennial Committee, 1976.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.
- Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.
- Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including the County of Prince George (sic), Maryland. Philadelphia, 1879. Reprint.
- Klein, Marilyn W. and David P. Fogle. Clues to American Architecture. Washington D.C. and Philadelphia: Starrhill Press, 1986.
- Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland.
- "The Laurel Factory." News and Notes from the Prince George's County Historical Society. (July 1980): 38-40. (First published in The American Farmer. Baltimore, Maryland, August 1845.)
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1984.
- Prince George's County Community Renewal Program. The Neighborhoods of Prince George's County. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Government, 1974.
- Rifkind, Carole. A Field Guide to American Architecture. New York: Signet Press, 1980.
- Virta, Alan. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History. Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1984, rev. 1991.
- Wagner, J. Personal Interview, 10 July 1996.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Frank Allen Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-15 (PACS E2.24)

ADDRESS: 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Muirkirk vicinity, Prince George's County, Maryland

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
Modern Period	A.D. 1930-present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Prepared by:

P.A.C. Spero & Company

December 1996

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

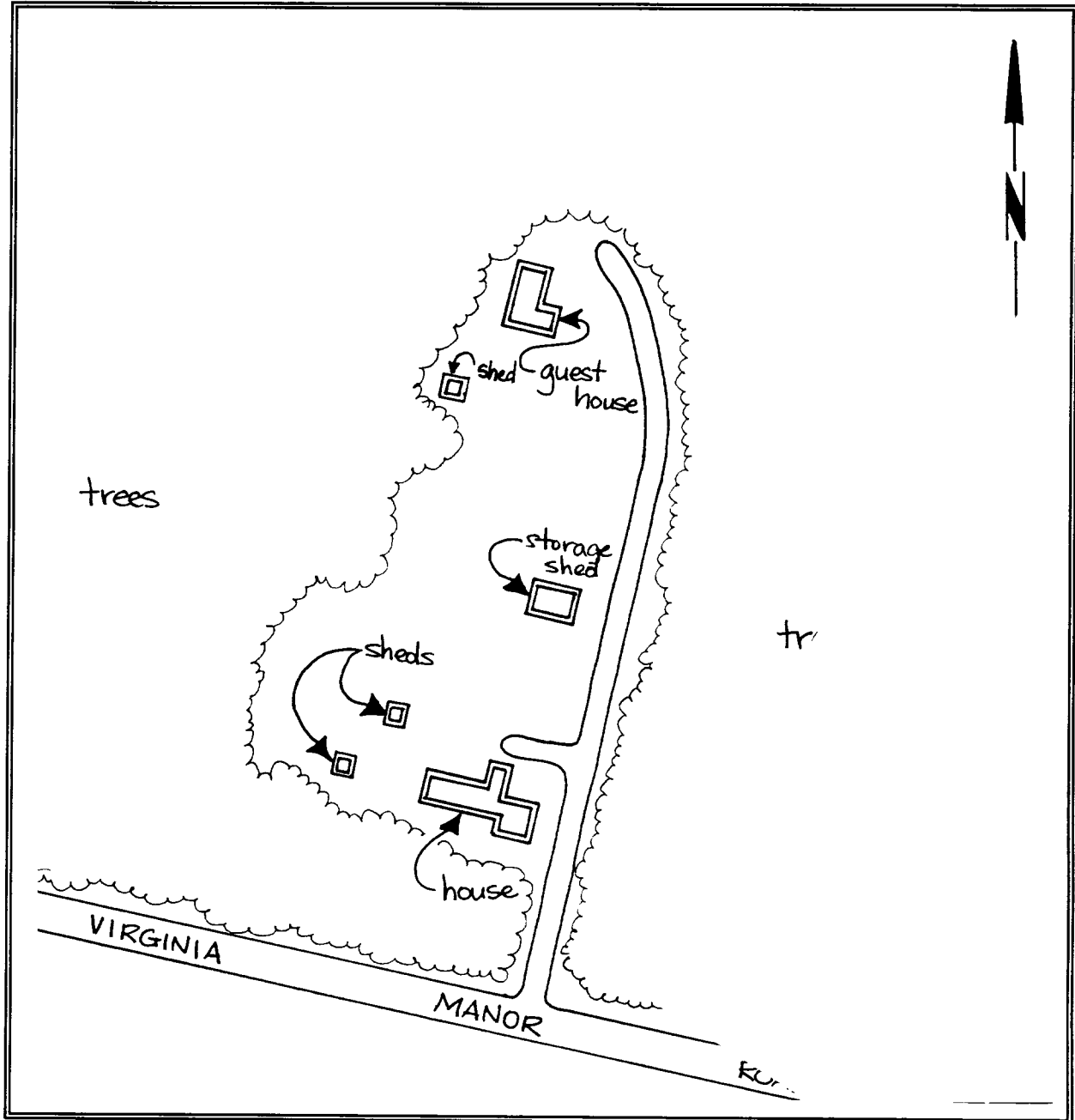
RESOURCE NAME: Frank Allen Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-15 (PACS E2.24)

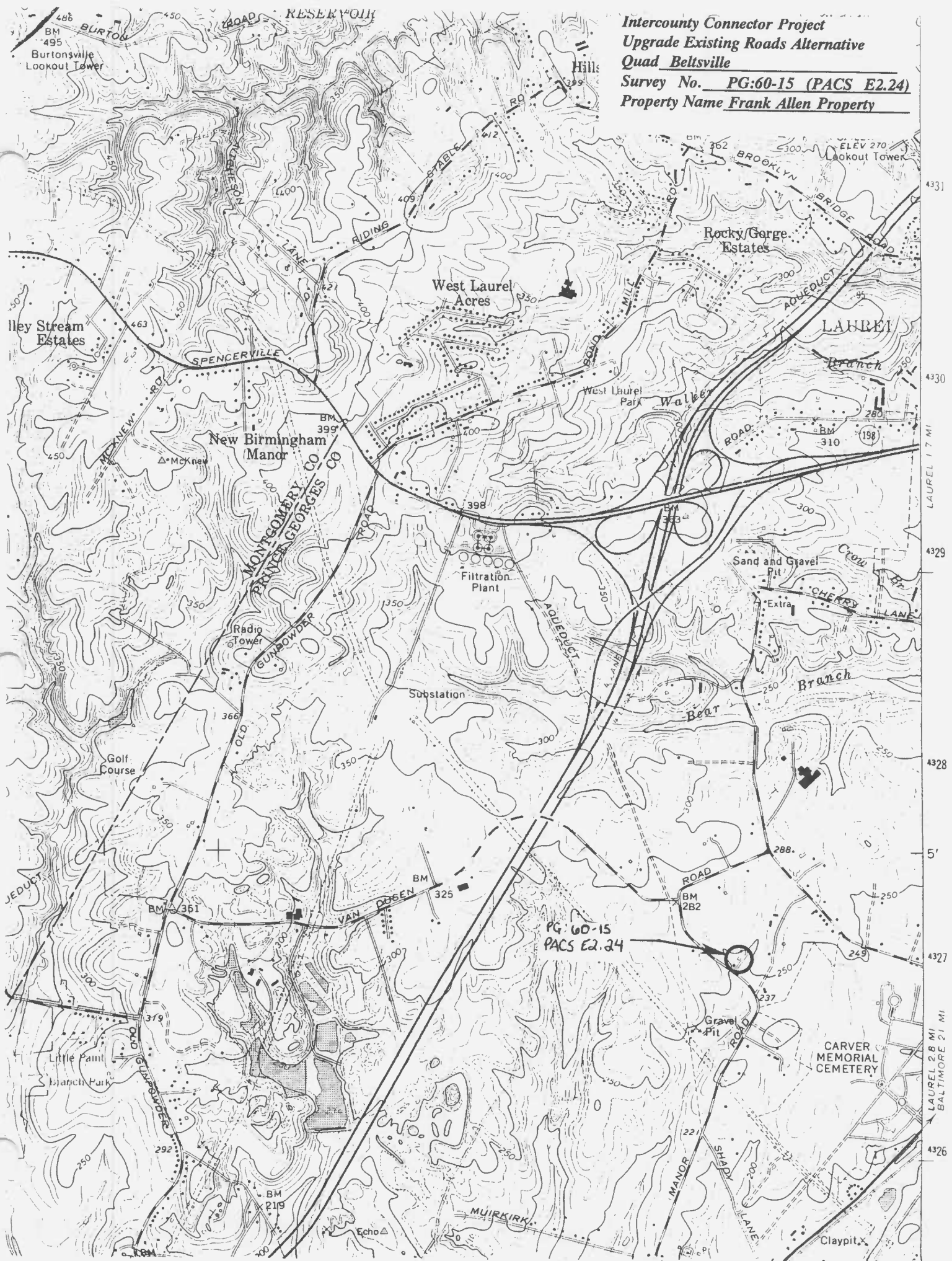
ADDRESS: 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Muirkirk vicinity, Prince George's County, Maryland

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



486
BM BUR
495
Burtonsville
Lookout Tower





1. PG: 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company 40 W Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Tawson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, East & South
elevations
8. 1 of 12



1. PG 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Sperry & Company 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, North and
West elevations
8. 2 of 12



1. PG 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, East & South
elevations
8. 3 of 12



1. PG-60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spaso & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, small shed
- 8 4 of 12



1. PG160-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spuro & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, shed roof
shed
8. 5 of 12



1. PG. 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Storage Shed
8. 6 of 12



1. PG 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spuo & Company, 40 W Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, shed
8. 7 of 12



1. PG: 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spurot Company, 40 W Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Guest House
South elevation
8. 8 of 12



1. PG: 60-15
2. Frank Allen Rapch
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spool & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave., Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Guest House
East Elevation
8. 9 of 12



1. PG. 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Speltz & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Guesthouse
west elevation
8. 10 of 12



1. PG 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Guesthouse
North elevation
8. 11 of 12



1. PG. 60-15
2. Frank Allen Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 13701 Virginia Manor Road, Guesthouse
North Elevation
8. 12 of 12